1986. Delay in its commissioning resulted in higher departmental and financing charges, besides higher commissioning expenses on raw materials, fuel, power etc. over a long period.

(b) Since all attempts at commissioning the project failed, it does not appear feasible to complete the project without further cost escalation. An additional investment of about Rs. 500 crores has been recommended by the foreign consultants appointed by Government for its end-to-end survey for recommissioning it and enabling it to run at the rated capacity.

Impact of rural development programmes on nutrition standard

1193. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural development programmes have made any significant impact on the nutrition standard of the people;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard in tribal, rural and urban slum areas; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARI): (a) Sustained improvement in nutrition of poor communities can only be achieved as part of overall socio-economic development and is dependent upon factors like increase in income, increased delivery of components of minimum needs programme, social attitudes etc. To the extent rural development programme like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) help in increasing the income of the beneficiary groups, they bring improvement in the nutritional standard of the poor. Foodgrains distributed under NREP/RLEGP also directly help in improving the nutritional level of the poor who work on these programmes.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Nutrition Foundation of India has conducted some studies of nutrition standards of poor communities in 7 regions of the country in tribal, rural and urban slum areas.

(c) The main findings of the studies undertaken by the Nutrition Foundation of India are given in statement enclosed. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 64]

Foreign Collaborations for import of seeds

1194. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister to AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of Indian companies/firms whose proposals had been approved for foreign collaborations since the new seed policy was announced on 16th September, 1988 and on what terms and conditions;

(b) what are the names of the companies referred to above who had applied for seed import licences after approval of foreign collaborations, alongwith the names/kinds of seeds, country of origin, quantity and value and the details of their import approvals, companywise and the pending proposals in this regard; and

(c) what are the names of the various State Government Seed Corporations which had also applied for import licences for seed import along with the names of the seeds and the quantity and the country of origin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) A Statement is enclosed. [*See* Appendix CXLIX, Annexure No. 65]

(b) No Seed Company mentioned in the Statement enclosed in for reply to part (a) has applied so far to this Ministry for import licence.

(c) No State Seeds Corporation has applied for import licence for the import of seeds after 16 September, 1988.

Villages for Uttar Pradesh and Bihar covered by TV programmes

1195. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar covered by both national and local TV programmes;

(b) the details of steps taken to extend this facility to more villages in U.P. and Bihar; and

(c) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) About 82,000 villages of Uttar Pradesh and 48,000 villages of Bihar are, at present, covered by the National TV programmes. Out of these, approximately 32,300 villages in Uttar Pradesh and 14,500 villages in Bihar are covered by regional/local TV programmes also.

(b) and (c) The following schemes are at various stages of implementation as part of the approved 7th Plan of Doordarshan:--

Uttar Pradesh:

(i) establishment of TV Studio Centre at Lucknow in replacement of the existing interim setup,

(ii) establishment of TV Studio Centre at Allahabad;

(iii) setting up of a high power (10KW) TV transmitter with programme generation facility at Bareilly;

(iv) establishment of 12 low power/ very low power transmitters and transposers at various places in the State;

(v) firm demand for the establishment of microwave links and end-links at Agra, Allahabad, Gorakhpur and Varanasi have been placed on Department of Tele-communication to enable the high power transmitters at these places to relay the regional TV programmes produced and telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Lucknow.

Bihar

(i) establisiment of TV Studio Centre at Patna;

(ii) establishment of TV Studio Centre at Ranchi (augmentation of existing facility);

(iii) establishment of Programme Generation Facility Centre at Daltonganj;

(iv) establishment of Programme Generation Facility Centre at Muzaffarpur;

(v) setting up of a high power (10KW) TV transmitter at Katihar;

(vi) establishment of high power (10KW) TV transmitter at Daltongaj;

(vii) 13 low power (100 W) TV transmitters at various places in the State;

(viii) firm demand for establishment of microwave links and endlinks at Katihar and Ranchi have been placed on Department of Tele-communication to enable TV transmitters at these places to relay regional